

Study Session Minutes
Selah City Council
January 22, 2019
3:03pm

Mayor Raymond opened the Study Session and welcomed Kevin Wickenhagen, Jeremy Burke, Charles Martin, Ellen Overby, and John Gawlik.

City Administrator Wayman explained the procedure, which starts with each candidate given three minutes to introduce him or herself, then the Mayor asking a series of set questions, followed by each Council Member asking one question and one follow-up question if they choose.

Community Development Supervisor Peters stated that he has verified that the addresses given by both applicants are within the City limits, and that both are residential.

Mayor Raymond called each applicant forward according to a random draw done prior to the Study Session, and invited him or her to speak briefly about themselves.

After the introduction was done, Mayor Raymond asked a series of prepared questions relating to the current state of City affairs, the responsibilities of a Council Member and their interaction with City staff, priorities for the City, finance, development, and communication.

Each Council Member was given an opportunity to ask a question, then a follow-up question.

Mayor Raymond thanked all of the applicants. She announced they would be at recess until the Council Meeting at 5:30pm.

The Study Session ended at 4:53 pm.

City of Selah
Council Minutes
January 22, 2019

Regular Meeting
Selah Council Chambers
115 West Naches Avenue
Selah, WA 98942

- A. Call to Order Mayor Raymond called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.
- B. Roll Call
- Members Present: Jacquie Matson; John Tierney; Roger Bell; Russell Carlson; Diane Underwood
- Members Absent:
- Staff Present: Donald Wayman, City Administrator; Robert Noe, City Attorney; Dale Novobielski, Clerk/Treasurer; Rick Hayes, Police Chief; Gary Hanna, Fire Chief; Joe Henne, Public Works Director; Jeff Peters, Community Development Supervisor; Ty Jones, Public Works Utility Supervisor; Andrew Potter, Human Resources Manager; Treesa Morales, Recreation Manager; Monica Lake, Executive Assistant

C. Councilmember Absence – Motion to Excuse **None**

D. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Raymond led the Pledge of Allegiance.

E. Invocation

Police Chief Hayes gave the prayer.

R. Executive Session

1. 30 Minute Session to consider the qualifications of a candidate for appointment to elective office - RCW 42.30.110 (1) (h)

Council went into Executive Session at 5:31m. At 6:01pm, Council went back on the record. Mayor Raymond stated that no action was taken during the Executive Session.

****** Vote on New Council Member Selection

Mayor Raymond thanked all the applicants and reminded them that those not chosen could apply for Council Member Glaspie's vacant position. She noted that there would also be six Council seats open in May for the November election.

Council Member Tierney moved, and Council Member Matson seconded, to appoint Charles Wickenhagen to the City Council position in the City of Selah. Roll was called: Council Member Matson – yes; Council Member Tierney – yes; Council Member Bell – yes; Council Member Underwood – recused; Council Member Carlson – yes. Motion passed with four yes votes and one recusal.

**** Swearing in of New Council Member**

Clerk/Treasurer Novobielski swore in Charles Wickenhagen as a Council Member for the City of Selah.

- F. Agenda Changes **None**
- G. Public Appearances/Introductions/ Presentations **None**
- H. Getting To Know Our Businesses **None**
- I. Communications
 - 1. Oral

Mayor Raymond opened the meeting.

Barb Petrea, Community Days Association, approached the podium and addressed the Council. She gave an update on Selah Community Days, saying that they have chosen to have Community Days at Carlon Park on May 17 through 19, with a change in direction of the parade to stage at Tree Top's empty lot, come down Wenas towards Carlon Park and de-stage at Save-On Foods. She noted that they are doing a lot more things that they have to pay for because the logistics are a little different.

Council Member Matson requested that she clarify that there would still be the hobo feed event.

Ms. Petrea responded that the normal activities still happening at the Civic Center, with the hobo feed on Thursday and the pancake feed on Saturday.

Council Member Carlson expressed his gratefulness for all the work crew puts together for Community Days.

Ms. Petrea said that she was excited for the logistical fun that would happen.

Seeing no one else rise to speak, Mayor Raymond closed the meeting.

- 2. Written **None**
- J. Proclamations/Announcements **None**
- K. Consent Agenda

Council Member Bell moved to add N – 1, N – 4, and N – 5 to the Consent Agenda.

Council Member Carlson requested that N – 4 not be added.

Council Member Tierney seconded to add N – 1 and N – 5 to the consent agenda. By voice vote, approval was unanimous.

Executive Assistant Lake read the Consent Agenda.

All items listed with an asterisk (*) were considered as part of the Consent Agenda.

* 1. Approval of Minutes: January 8, 2019 Council Meeting

* 2. Approval of Claims and Payroll:

Payroll Checks Nos. 82398 – 82475 for a total of \$244,981.74

Claim Checks Nos. 72374 – 72441 for a total of \$179,528.53

Claim Checks Nos. 72442 – 72500 for a total of \$165,893.27

* 3. Resolution N – 1: Resolution Declaring Parks & Recreation Property (Expired Youth Sports Jerseys) as Surplus and Authorizing Disposition of the Same

* 4. Resolution N – 5: Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to sign an Intergovernmental Local Agreement for Stormwater Permit Compliance Activities between Yakima County and the City of Selah

Council Member Carlson moved, and Council Member Matson seconded, approval of the Consent Agenda as read. By voice vote, approval was unanimous.

L. Public Hearings **None**

M. General Business

1. New Business

a. Board and Committee Assignments for calendar year 2019

Mayor Raymond read through the list of board and committee assignments. Council Members were assigned as follows: Finance Committee – Council Members Carlson, Matson, and Wickenhagen; Parks & Recreation Board – Council Member Underwood; Lodging Tax Advisory Committee and Selah Tourism Promotion Board – Council Member Tierney; Yakima Valley Conference of Governments – Council Members Carlson and Matson; Yakima Valley Visitors & Convention Bureau – Council Member Tierney; Selah Parks & Recreation Service Area Board – Council Members Bell and Underwood; Fire Commissioners Board and Volunteers Firefighters Board – Mayor Raymond and Council Member Bell; Selah Chamber of Commerce – Council Member Bell; Selah School District – Council Members Underwood and Matson; Gang Commission – Council Member Tierney; Naches-

Selah Irrigation District Voting Member – Mayor Raymond; Selah Downtown Association – Council Member Carlson.

Council Member Tierney moved, and Council Member Bell seconded, to approve the Board and Committee Assignments for calendar year 2019. By voice vote, approval was unanimous.

b. Fire Levy discussion

City Administrator Wayman addressed M – 1b. He said that this is an emerging issue that the Fire Chief and Fire Commission brought to the staff and Mayor's attention, as when they started estimating where they would be over the next ten years, there were concerns with the maintenance and operations funding for the Fire Department. He explained that the District handles sixty percent of the costs, the City forty percent, and that Fire Chief Hanna would explain the three segments of the issue, which include why there's a need for more funding, what is going to need to happen or what staff recommends, and lastly what they need to do and how they get there. He turned the meeting over to Fire Chief Hanna regarding issues that would necessitate a thirty-five cent lid lift on property taxes.

Fire Chief Hanna reminded Council that he explained what was going on with funding at the previous meeting, and that with the increase for 2019 they went from a favorable position with no changes to added increased costs projecting an unfavorable balance in five years. He went on to say that to continue providing the same level of service they would need some funding to support it, and that the proposed levy isn't intended to do anything other than maintain the current level of service to a growing population and call volume, which has been growing an average of four percent annually but saw a nine percent call volume increase in 2018, which means additional pay for the volunteers and dispatching fees. He mentioned that volunteerism is down nationwide, as availability is going away due to people not able to leave their jobs to answer a call. He noted that the seven career firefighters run ninety percent of the calls during the days and he estimates that they would need to increase that by one to three more full-time firefighters within three to five years. He stated that thirty-five cents more per thousand wouldn't be a department staffed at all times but simply help them to maintain minimum staffing levels, continue the fire life safety inspection program, maintain public education, keep members trained, and maintain the facilities and apparatus they have.

City Administrator Wayman asked what period of time he was looking at.

Fire Chief Hanna replied that they are looking ten years out, and that it looks pretty solid taking into account historical trends they see regarding fuel costs, electricity, and other expenses.

Council Member Tierney inquired if the thirty-five cents per thousand was district wide or just Selah.

Fire Chief Hanna responded that those in the Fire District would go from eighty-two cents to a dollar and seventeen cents per thousand.

City Administrator Wayman spoke briefly about the meeting he and the Mayor had with the Fire Commissioners, where they concurred regarding the levy, saying that the issue for him is struggling to maintain fire service, as the Fire Department must show up whenever there's an incident.

Fire Chief Hanna observed that they are averaging about a twenty percent overlap in calls.

City Administrator Wayman reiterated that they are talking about maintaining not increasing service, and if they stumble to keep up that level of service it does have a macro effect on what they all pay for homeowners and business insurance.

Council Member Tierney wondered if there was a breakdown of calls for fire versus aid.

Fire Chief Hanna answered that they are running about seventy-two percent medical aid calls.

Council Member Tierney asked if there was a need for trained police officers to assist in calls.

Police Chief Hayes responded that officers aren't at the same level, but just basic first aid.

Fire Chief Hanna remarked that legally they must have at least one EMT on board.

Deputy Fire Chief Lange said that Selah is classified as protection class five, and that not being able to do more funding might slide them back to a six rating, which would mean roughly an eleven percent increase in homeowners insurance.

Council Member Carlson inquired what other fire districts were doing.

Fire Chief Hanna stated that the Selah Fire Department is the second busiest in the Upper Valley behind Yakima, and that he believes the two closest to them are about four hundred calls per year behind and don't provide code enforcement of any kind, with twelve full-time and hiring three more.

Council Member Carlson suggested that code enforcement passed along to Public Works.

Fire Chief Hanna responded that there would still be a cost involved.

Deputy Fire Chief Lange added that he has checked the numbers on farming it out, and they aren't good.

Council Member Carlson suggested that paying for an EMT to go to code enforcement versus the code enforcement officer at Public Works might be doable.

Fire Chief Hanna replied that the person would still need training, as the Deputy Fire Chief is also the Fire Marshal.

City Administrator Wayman clarified that the code enforcement Deputy Fire Chief Lange does is as the Fire Marshal, a skill that Code Enforcement Officer Barnes may not possess.

Council Member Carlson inquired as to Selah's current rate.

Fire Chief Hanna responded that there is no dedicated rate at present.

Deputy Fire Chief Lange said that other districts ran a levy, and that forty percent of that number comes from Fire Department classification and membership or personnel.

Fire Chief Hanna commented that he believes they dropped from a five to a six and ran a levy to get more people to remain at a five.

Council Member Carlson wondered about the difference in costs between four and five coverage.

Fire Chief Hanna answered that it wasn't as large from five to four as it was from five to six.

Council Member Carlson asked if they go with the effort to get to a four.

Fire Chief Hanna responded that they've talked to the survey and rating folks, and they think there's the potential to get to a four. He added that they offered to meet to discuss the elements to get to a four, as there are so many things they rate them on, they would help them focus on what gains the most ground.

Council Member Bell wondered about the rating for the Fire District.

Fire Chief Hanna responded that it's the same number for both, with the hydrant system within the City helping along with it being where the manpower crew lives. He added that the City actually has a five rating, while just outside the City is an eight.

Council Member Carlson asked for confirmation on the possibility that they could get to a four.

Deputy Fire Chief Lange answered that he would have to do more research.

Council Member Carlson commented that he was approaching it from a point of will save them money on insurance and possibly get them to a four to run the levy.

Fire Chief Hanna replied that it was certainly their goal.

Council Member Bell thought it fair to let Council know that the community is faced with three levies this year, one for the Selah School district, a pool M&O levy by the SPRSA, and the fire levy.

Fire Chief Hanna recommended that they run it in August, as the end of the fire season is the best time to run this type of levy with the best chance to succeed.

City Administrator Wayman invited Clerk/Treasurer Novobielski up to talk about the financial aspect.

Clerk/Treasurer Novobielski started by answering Council Member Carlson's question regarding how much of the property taxes are allocated for fire operations, saying that for the 2019 tax year the total levy imposed by Selah is two dollars and twenty-seven cents allocated to the General fund, the Fire Fund, and the Street Fund, of which forty-three cents of every dollar that they levy of taxes is currently going for fire.

Council Member Tierney inquired if he meant to say forty-three cents per thousand.

Clerk/Treasurer Novobielski responded in the affirmative. He explained that State RCW only allows them to increase property taxes by one percent each year, and that the process they are speaking of is called a levy lid lift, which requires that they go to the voters to exceed a one percent increase, which can pass by simple majority. He explained that, due to new construction and reassessments, it would actually result in an eleven cent increase per thousand over what property owners paid last year.

Council Member Carlson asked what plan B was if the levy doesn't pass.

City Administrator Wayman responded that his question should also be what they are going to do if, between the City and the Fire District, one levy passes while the other does not. He said that they have the option to not go forward with that tax, and then they would have to review year by year where they are going with Fire in the budget and see some deterioration, rearrange the General Fund budget as necessary. He noted that the relationship with the Fire District could change in the future due to growth within the City.

Council Member Wickenhagen wondered if they had a history for fire levies in the past.

City Administrator Wayman responded that they don't have that data.

Fire Chief Hanna added that the only thing he could compare it to is the EMS levy, which passed at seventy-eight percent last time.

Council Member Carlson felt that the City Administrator brought up a really good point regarding the relationship, and that he has concerns regarding managing the City's portion.

Fire Chief Hanna explained that the auditors were the ones to figure out a way that's fair and equitable, with a formula based on call volume and population, saying that they use a three year average to come up with that ratio, which is currently forty-one point eight percent in the City. He added that they need to stay there to stay compliant with State auditors need to stay there if we can, giving the example of how they adjusted the 2019 budget request from the City due to the District side being tapped out.

Council Member Carlson pointed out that the City was prepared to pay that, and he's trying to figure out the limits if the balance changes due to growth management and annexation.

City Administrator Wayman replied that it's a zero sum game, as the District is a finite border and so is the City. If they expand into the District they pick up more of a tax base, which has the potential to increase the City's share.

Council Member Carlson commented that annexing a house would change their amount from eighty-two cents per thousand to forty-three cents per thousand.

Fire Chief Hanna agreed that they would lose money initially, but they make that up with the public safety utility tax.

City Administrator Wayman noted that eventually that money comes back in with development.

Council Member Tierney asked if it could be tacked onto the public safety levy out now.

Clerk/Treasurer Novobielski responded that currently they have a twenty-nine point five percent utility tax, of which eight point five is a public utility tax, and that his understanding is that there is no limit on what they can impose on utility tax for utilities.

City Administrator Wayman state that they weren't going there.

Council Member Tierney asked how they would move forward with it.

City Administrator Wayman answered that they would need to file by May 10 for the August ballot, which would cost the City anywhere from twenty to twenty-eight thousand to run, with flyers, sign, and advertisement done jointly with the Fire District. He went on to say that City Attorney Noe has already drafted a Resolution for Council to review, which he could email to them before close of business the next day, and if they could get a sense of the Council on this they could vote on it at the next meeting. He noted that the Fire Commissioners would also be voting on it at their next meeting.

Council Member Tierney felt that the way to sell it to the public would be the explanation from the Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chief that if it doesn't pass and the rating decreases insurance will go up more than the amount in the levy.

Council Member Carlson reiterated his concern about what they would do if it doesn't pass. He suggested taking the excess sales tax and paying more towards the Fire Department so that the District and the City are paying fifty percent each.

Fire Chief Hanna responded that he didn't think the auditors would allow it, as it would get into the gifting of public funds by paying for folks in the District. He added that it's a good relationship between the City and the Fire District, but when comes to these matters it gets a little complicated.

Council Member Carlson commented that he was just trying to decide what would be the plan if it didn't pass and why that isn't a plan currently.

City Administrator Wayman though that the answer is look at running it again in a year or two, especially if they move from level five to level six, as people would feel that in the pocketbook and want to know why. He commented that they would be tightening the belt, re-evaluating the Fire Department, and running at the polls again in a year or two.

Fire Chief Hanna added that it's the only place they can make up that much money, saying that he ran the numbers of fixed costs regarding wages and benefits, utilities, fuels, intergovernmental agreements, insurance costs, costs they have to run the department, supplies, and repair and maintenance of vehicles, and there aren't a lot of places to trim other than man hours.

Council Member Carlson said that he was okay with that and simply wanted to know what Plan B was if they had one.

Council Member Tierney responded that they want a real success with Plan A.

Council Member Bell expressed his desire to see the Resolution so they have some hard facts to move forward and discuss at a future meeting.

City Administrator Wayman noted that Council wished to see the Resolution and would send it out to them the next day.

- c. Approval to Install Power and Pedestals in the grass strip of the west parking lot of Civic Center

Public Works Director Henne addressed M – 1c. He requested approval to move forward with the installation of electrical wiring and pedestals for power at the Civic Center and the grass strip west of the Civic Center.

Council Member Tierney inquired as to the additional expense to make those recharging ports for electric vehicles.

Public Works Director Henne replied that he understands those to be quite expensive.

Council Member Tierney wondered if there would be grant dollars available to do that.

Public Works Director Henne answered that he didn't know but could look into it.

Council Member Tierney thought it would be nice to do that simultaneously.

City Administrator Wayman requested that Council look at this as a separate issue from that, a time sensitive one with March installation.

Public Works Director Henne stated that they want to install the sprinkler system and get grass in, adding that there was nothing preventing them from running wire to put chargers in.

Council Member Carlson thought they could do that as part of any remodel on the Civic Center.

Council Member Tierney commented that he was thinking in terms of the park and ride issue.

Public Works Director Henne repeated that he didn't know if any grants for that were out there.

Council Member Wickenhagen asked what the outlets would be used for in the strip.

Public Works Director Henne replied that they have a farmer's market and a car show, and have talked about having other functions like that, and it would provide power for vendors.

City Administrator Wayman added that it makes the parking area a lot more versatile by creating another venue for events.

Council Member Tierney moved, and Council Member Carlson seconded, to Approve the installation of Power and Pedestals in the grass strip of the west parking lot of Civic Center. Roll was called: Council Member Wickenhagen – yes; Council Member Matson – yes; Council Member Tierney – yes; Council Member Bell – yes; Council Member Underwood – yes; Council Member Carlson – yes. By voice vote approval was unanimous.

Council Member Tierney requested that he do some research on charging stations.

Public Works Director Henne replied that he would do so.

2. Old Business **None**

N. Resolutions

- * 1. Resolution Declaring Parks & Recreation Property (Expired Youth Sports Jerseys) as Surplus and Authorizing Disposition of the Same
- 2. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign Task Order 2019-02 between the City of Selah and HLA Engineering and Land Surveying, Inc. to provide Engineering Design services for the North First Street Sidewalk Improvements Project

Public Works Director Henne addressed N – 2. He said that they are moving forward with the grind and overlay on North First Street, outlining the scope of the project for replacement of curb, gutter and sidewalk, which he noted was not covered by the TIB grant. He requested approval for the contract with HLA to put the project together, which had already been budgeted for 2019.

Council Member Carlson asked how much it would cost to hire an in-house consultant on a permanent basis versus the additional expenses with HLA.

Public Works Director Henne responded that they would have to hire an engineer and have the ability to produce plans.

Council Member Carlson observed that it's only January and they are already looking at two sets of additional work from HLA, opining that it seems like a lot of money for someone to advise or consult.

Public Works Director Henne listed what HLA does for the City as part of their contract.

Council Member Carlson commented that the consultant fee is how one makes money, and wondered at what point they would hire their own consultant.

City Administrator Wayman answered that, if they had a city engineer, that would be a high cost employee who would need an assistant, and would be probably talking at least two salaries.

Public Works Director Henne added that they would still hire out for a survey.

Council Member Bell remarked that it's not hiring one employee its hiring multiple, and with HLA they get a firm rather than an employee they would have to augment all the time.

Council Member Matson asked if they were doing the engineering design also.

Public Works Director Henne answered in the affirmative.

Council Member Tierney moved, and Council Member Bell seconded, to approve the Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign Task Order 2019-02 between the City of Selah and HLA Engineering and Land Surveying, Inc. to provide Engineering Design services for the North First Street Sidewalk Improvements Project. Roll was called: Council Member Wickenhagen – yes; Council Member Matson – yes; Council Member Tierney – yes; Council Member Bell – yes; Council Member Underwood – yes; Council Member Carlson – yes. By voice vote approval was unanimous.

3. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign a Washington State Transportation Improvement Board Consulting Agreement between the City of Selah and HLA Engineering and Land Surveying, Inc. to provide consultant services for the North First Street Resurfacing (FY 2020 Overlay Project)

Public Works Director Henne addressed N – 3. He read aloud from the contract the scope of work to be done by HLA as listed on page seven, saying that this contract would also go through the Transportation Improvement Board to accept.

Council Member Tierney asked if the value of the contract is such that should have been put out for bid.

Public Works Director Henne replied in the negative, saying that it's part of the standard consultant services for a three year contract. He noted that if one was going for a Federal contract then it would have gone out for bid.

Council Member Tierney moved, and Council Member Bell seconded, to approve the Resolution authorizing the Public Works Director to sign a Water Quality Combined Financial Assistance Agreement WQC-2017-SelahPW-00101 with the Washington State Department of Ecology to assist in funding the City's Taylor Ditch Outfall Pollution Reduction project. Roll was called: Council Member Wickenhagen – yes; Council Member Matson – yes; Council Member Tierney – yes; Council Member Bell – yes; Council Member Underwood – yes; Council Member Carlson – yes. By voice vote approval was unanimous.

4. Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign an amended Water Facility Development Contract (Latecomer Reimbursement) Agreement between NCW, LLC (formerly Goodlander Holdings, LLC) and the City of Selah

Community Development Supervisor Peters addressed N – 4. He spoke briefly as to the history of the Latecomers agreement between the City and NCW Development LLC entered into in December 2009 to cover infrastructure for Valhalla all the way up to zone 6, saying that the original agreement provided that developer may come back to the City to amend the agreement to include additional facilities and a

pump station. He went on to say that they've done that and are now asking the City to amend the agreement to allow them to recoup their costs for the improvement to the water system, which would be fifteen thousand thirty-seven dollars and fifty-four cents per unit. He added that the City sent out the required notice to property owners and received no contact in return, which allows them to consider the matter in a resolution form and have the Mayor sign an amended contract.

Council Member Tierney questioned whether the dollar amount included a connection fee on those lots affected by an amendment to the latecomer's agreement.

Community Development Supervisor Peters responded that the fee would be in addition to that amount.

Council Member Tierney inquired as to the additional cost.

Public Works Director Henne answered that sewer is twelve hundred dollars and water is eight hundred.

Community Development Supervisor Peters added that they pay the entire amount directly to the City, then they hold the money and the developer gets a percentage back.

Council Member Carlson expressed his dislike of latecomer agreements in general, with the City in essence acting as a bank, and the ability to recoup costs being very long term.

Community Development Supervisor Peters commented that this was a 20 year contract with the developer, with the original done in 2009. He mentioned that the applicant was in the audience.

Council Member Carlson wondered about water pressure issues mentioned to him by someone who already resides in the area.

City Administrator Wayman responded that he lives up there as well, and runs at seventy-five psi with the pump station, where prior to its installation he was around forty to forty-five psi.

Community Development Supervisor Peters noted that thirty is the minimum water pressure in the City.

Council Member Carlson stated that he didn't want to charge those folks and then still have water pressure issues.

City Administrator Wayman remarked that these are only the lots that haven't been sold.

Council Member Matson asked if it would show up on a title report.

Community Development Supervisor Peters answered that it would be a line item on a title report once the agreement has been recorded.

Council Member Bell moved, and Council Member Matson seconded, to approve the Resolution authorizing the Mayor to sign an amended Water Facility Development Contract (Latecomer Reimbursement) Agreement between NCW, LLC (formerly Goodlander Holdings, LLC) and the City of Selah. Roll was called: Council Member Wickenhagen – yes; Council Member Matson –

yes; Council Member Tierney – yes; Council Member Bell – yes; Council Member Underwood – yes; Council Member Carlson – yes. By voice vote approval was unanimous.

- *5. Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to sign an Intergovernmental Local Agreement for Stormwater Permit Compliance Activities between Yakima County and the City of Selah

O. Ordinances **None**

P. Public Appearances **None**

Q. Reports/Announcements

1. Departments

Police Chief Hayes reminded everyone about the upcoming Citizens Academy starting February 4 and running through April 22, at 6pm each Monday night, saying that they have twelve signed up but would like to have twenty to twenty-five. He invited Council to attend, adding that it may be something that should be mandatory for new Council Members.

Mayor Raymond presented Police Chief Hayes with the trophy for best Christmas decorations.

Fire Chief Hanna had no report, but thanked Council for their consideration on the levy.

Community Development Supervisor Peters spoke briefly about his department, saying that they have a lot going on including meeting with developers and new businesses looking at Selah, working with the Selah School District on their project and the upcoming Planning Commission hearing prior to it coming before Council, and sending out notice for a critical area review for the School District project due to its proximity to one of the wells.

Council Member Tierney wondered if any of the additional businesses looking at Selah were in addition to those taking place at Save-On Foods.

Community Development Supervisor Peters replied in the affirmative.

Public Works Director Henne handed out copies of a letter from SunRype to Council, saying that they had agreed in writing to put in a monitoring station on or before June 1, and were asking whether Council would authorize him to bring back the agreement for additional discharge.

Council Member Carlson observed that, in other words, it worked.

Public Works Director Henne agreed that they gave the City a written commitment.

City Administrator Wayman requested a sense of the Council will on the matter.

Council Member Tierney inquired if item two applies only during the interim, or whether they could go in at any time.

Public Works Director Henne responded that they could go in at any time.

Council Member Tierney asked that he confirm that they could still go in to take samples once the station is installed.

Public Works Director Henne answered in the affirmative.

Council Member Carlson commented that it would still be part of the process.

Council Member Underwood wondered how often they would go in to do the sampling.

Public Works Director Henne replied that they would probably keep to the same schedule as now, monitoring continuously based on how it's set up, and sample at least three times a week.

Council Member Wickenhagen inquired if there was a way to do so remotely.

Public Works Director Henne responded in the negative.

Council Member Matson asked about a clause saying that if it isn't done by that date the City would be charging them for going out to do the testing.

Public Works Director Henne answered that they have to put it in as it's required by Ordinance.

Council Member Carlson pointed out that they hadn't up to that point.

Public Works Director Henne replied that they were given a pass not to put it in by previous administration, and installing it would benefit them as well by providing more accurate data and flow for them at their facility.

Council Member Carlson remarked that additional charges should be billed after June 1 for the City going to do sampling, given that their letter of intent gave that as the date for them to be compliant.

Council Member Matson felt that was fair.

Public Works Director Henne responded that was built into their rates.

Council Member Tierney asked that he bring the matter back to Council.

Council Member Tierney moved, and Council Member Carlson seconded, to excuse Mayor Raymond from the remainder of the meeting due to another commitment. By voice vote, approval was unanimous.

Clerk/Treasurer Novobielski said that he hadn't yet received a report on the January sales tax, but he was optimistic that with construction in the area it would be a good report for the next meeting.

Recreation Manager Morales welcomed the newest Council Member then spoke briefly about her trip to Olympia that morning to attend a recreation and conservation office funding meeting. She said that they were surprised they came over, and that she hopes when they go back and ask for more money they will say yes as they were happy with how the Volunteer Park project turned out. She thanked the Council for allowing her to go and supporting her in that.

City Attorney Noe had no report.

2. Council Members

Council Member Wickenhagen thanked his fellow Council Member for the opportunity, saying that he could already tell there was going to be a lot to learn, and that he was looking forward to that.

Council Member Matson welcomed Council Member Wickenhagen. She said that they had a Volunteer Park meeting last week, and are moving forward with Frisbee golf, looking for nine businesses to support for five hundred dollars apiece. She added that they may have some groups that need to do some stuff for their badges to provide benches and tables, and that they are looking at different gazebo sizes.

City Administrator Wayman asked if they had discussed species of trees yet.

Council Member Matson replied in the affirmative, saying that her fellow board member should present that to him.

City Administrator Wayman inquired about signage for the trail and the playground.

Council Member Matson responded that they have one of the signs.

Recreation Manager Morales stated that they have the sign from RCO, which is currently up, and that the other signs are on an aluminum board with a two week turnaround from when they order them.

City Administrator Wayman commented that tree planting needs to happen as soon as they can start in the spring, and they need some action on that to reserve that special tree.

Council Member Matson replied that she would bring it up at next week's meeting for a final decision, suggesting that the City Administrator confer with her fellow board member on the topic. She spoke briefly about the Selah Community Days meeting she attended the previous Tuesday, saying that everything was moving forward really quickly.

Council Member Tierney inquired if there would be plaques on the disc hole apparatus people would be donating to purchase.

Council Member Matson answered in the affirmative, saying that it would all be standardized.

Council Member Bell reminded everyone about the SPRSA fundraiser Feb 2nd at the Civic Center, noting that multiple council people can attend the social event as long as they don't sit together and talk

about City business, and encouraged as many as can to attend and show support from the City for the spaghetti dinner fundraiser, which includes both a silent auction and a live auction.

Council Member Underwood commented that she had an idea for a moneymaker for the SPRSA but talked to Barb Petrea, adding that she had no further report.

Council Member Carlson said that the SDA grant application program was opening back up, and that if anyone knew any businesses interested in applying they have ten thousand to award this year.

Clerk/Treasurer Novobielski commented that he went online Monday and attempted to make a sixty thousand dollar contribution, but was cut off at fifty-eight thousand eight hundred due to other local contributions. He noted that after the initial period limiting each association, there would be another opportunity to contribute the remainder of the City's allocated amount.

Council Member Carlson remarked that it shows how much the businesses in town have supported this program.

Mayor Pro Tempore Tierney commented that he had talked to R&Q recently, and they would be painting the metal roof when it warms up.

Council Member Carlson expressed his love for the SDA program, aying that he enjoys it.

3. City Administrator

City Administrator Wayman welcomed the new Council Member, saying that his door is always open and that he would call to set up a meeting to get him up to speed. He noted that there would be an exit conference with the State Auditors on the 31st.

Clerk/Treasurer Novobielski commented that they were doing some checking and would get back to him regarding the meeting.

City Administrator Wayman remarked that the Civic Center is in the middle of crab feed season, with an additional dumpster to contain the refuse, and that any messes would be cleaned up. He spoke about the loss of a School District building that the food bank uses for storage, saying that he's been in discussions with Bill Harris and others regarding a new facility for the clothing and food banks, to be discussed during executive session along with a litigation matter. He remarked that the strip on front of the dance studio, along First Street, will have the grass replaced with pavers and eventually a rest bench, and talked briefly about a few other things happening around the City.

4. Boards **None**

5. Mayor Pro Tempore

Mayor Pro Tempore Tierney had no report, but mentioned that there would be an LTAC meeting in the near future he would report on at a future Council Meeting.

P. Executive Session

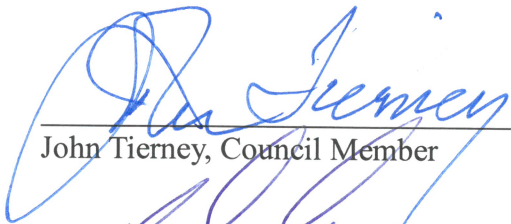
1. 15 Minute Session – Potential Litigation RCW 42.30.110 (1) (i) and Real Estate RCW 42.30.110 (1) (b) & RCW 42.30.110 (1) (c)

Council went into Executive Session at 7:50m. At 8:06pm, Council went back on the record. Mayor Pro Tempore Tierney stated that no action was taken during the Executive Session.

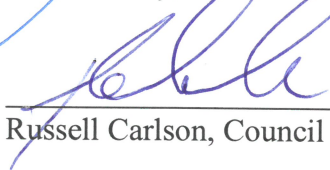
Q. Adjournment

Council Member Carlson moved, and Council Member Underwood seconded, that the meeting be adjourned. Motion passed with five yes votes and one no vote.


The meeting adjourned at 8:06pm.



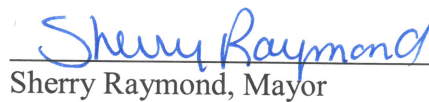
John Tierney, Council Member



Russell Carlson, Council Member



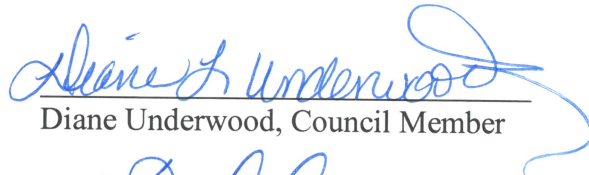
Jacquie Matson, Council Member



Sherry Raymond, Mayor



Roger Bell, Council Member

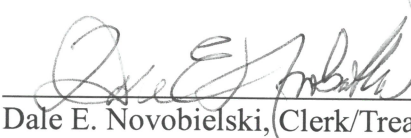


Diane Underwood, Council Member



Kevin Wickenhagen, Council Member

ATTEST:



Dale E. Novobielski, Clerk/Treasurer